

WYCOMBE Wanderers to beat Newport County by the odd goal. That's the confident prediction from Blues supporters I interviewed before the Rothmans Isthmian League game against Enfield recently.

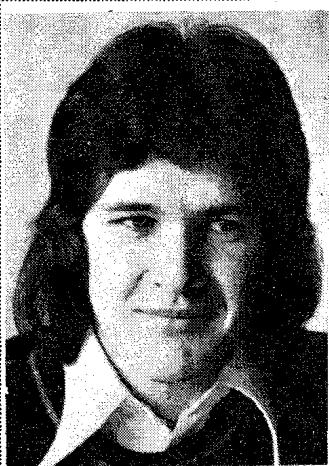
Everyone, however, thought the game was going to be close. The fans took into account Newport's poor away record and also the problems of the sloping Loakes Park pitch and the overall opinion was a Wycombe victory.

Estimates at the size of the crowd were varied. Some thought this memorable occasion would attract 10,000 or more than ever and he added, pessimistic supporters couldn't see the attendance figures topping more than 5,000.

As for the support for Wycombe, Mr. David Johns of 'Cover Point,' 4 Freemantle Road, High Wycombe, had strong views. "I hope the town support their club because they deserve it. This draw is a great thing for the club, but I do not see more than five or 6,000 people watching the match," he said.

Mr. Johns was none too sure

about the result. "The advantage of the ground could upset Newport, but I think either side will win by the odd goal."



STORY BY TERRY REEVE

A supporter of the 'Blues' for 25 years, 75 years old Mr. R. L.

Trendall, of 26 The Close, Greys Road, Henley on Thames, was quite confident about a Wanderers victory. "It's a good draw and I think we stand a great chance of beating them," were his optimistic words. His reason for travelling from Oxon to see the Wanderers? "Because they are entertaining."

John Simmonds, 21 Chiltern Avenue, High Wycombe, was "very pleased" with the draw. He rated Wycombe's chances more than even and he added, "With the crowd behind them they could win by the odd goal."

Young **Stephen Cleale**, of 10 Limetree Close, Great Kingshill, said, "Newport are my favourite league team, but they are not as good as Wycombe. I think the crowd will be about 10,000 and Wycombe will win 2-0 or 2-1." (Not bad coming from a Newport supporter!)

When **Eva Birch**, of 730 London Road, High Wycombe, was asked if she thought Wanderers would win, she was quite adamant with her answer. "Why shouldn't we win?"

Whenever Wycombe play I always think they will win."

Alex Vukovic, of 191 Chairborough Road, High Wycombe,

who went on tour to Yugoslavia with Wycombe last year, was slightly hesitant about the 'Blues' chances. "I think we will beat them but only 1-0."

He didn't know much about Newport County except for their poor away record. Mr. Vukovic added that Wycombe play better against professional sides, so their chances are more than even.

"Tremendous draw," were the words of **Mr. David Finch**, of 27 Tilling Crescent, High Wycombe. He was hopeful in all aspects about the game. "The slope will be an advantage to the Wanderers and this will give them a great chance of winning," he said. Mr. Finch also expects a crowd of around 10,000 to watch the match. He added that Newport will have "very little" of the crowd behind them because most of the crowd will be Wycombe supporters.

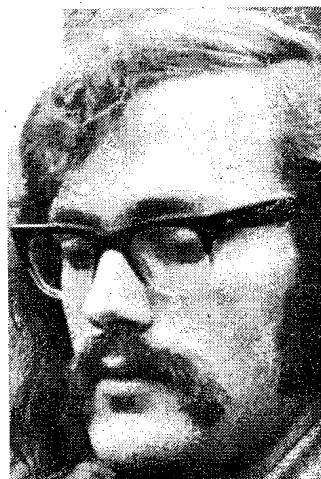
John Bignell, of 18 St. George's Close, High Wycombe, was not so enthusiastic about the crowd. He said, "I think the crowd will be about 5,500 and I will be surprised if there are more than 6,000." But he added, "Wycombe will give them a good game and I think they will win."



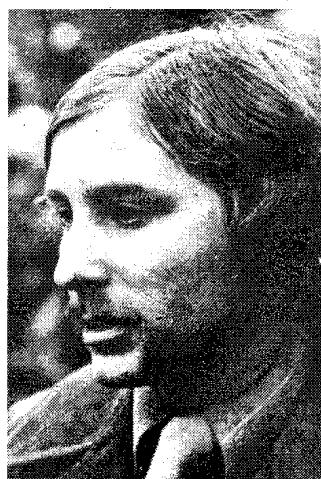
DAVID JOHNS



R. TRENDALL



DAVID FINCH



JOHN BIGNELL